

§ 516.160 What does this subpart do?

This subpart contains informal and formal meeting procedures. It applies whenever a regulation incorporates the procedures in this subpart, or when otherwise required by the OTS.

§ 516.170 What procedures govern informal meetings on applications?

(a) *When will the OTS arrange an informal meeting?* The OTS may arrange an informal meeting with the applicant, commenters, or any other interested persons to clarify and narrow the issues and to facilitate the resolution of the issues. If a commenter has filed a written request for an informal meeting containing the information described at §516.120(b), the OTS will arrange an informal meeting. The OTS also may arrange an informal meeting on its own initiative.

(b) *What action will the OTS take on an informal meeting request?* The OTS will inform the applicant and commenters requesting an informal meeting of the OTS decision on a request for an informal meeting, or of its decision to hold an informal meeting on its own initiative.

(c) *How will the OTS inform the informal meeting participants of the date, time, location and format for the informal meeting?* The OTS will invite the applicant and the commenter filing the request for the informal meeting. The OTS may also invite any other interested persons to attend. The OTS will inform the participants of the date, time, location, and format for the informal meeting a reasonable time in advance of the informal meeting.

(d) *What procedures will govern the conduct of the informal meeting?* The OTS may hold informal meetings in any format, including a telephone conference or face-to-face meeting.

(e) *Will there be an additional opportunity to discuss the application?* Within three days after the informal meeting, any participant in the informal meeting may request the OTS to hold a formal meeting under §516.180. The participant should describe the nature of the issues or facts to be presented and the reasons why a formal meeting is necessary to make an adequate presentation of the facts or issues. The participant must file the request with the

OTS and send copies of the request to other participants in the informal meeting.

§ 516.180 What procedures govern formal meetings on applications?

(a) *When will the OTS hold a formal meeting?* The OTS will not grant a request for a formal meeting unless an informal meeting has been conducted under §516.170. The OTS will grant all requests for a formal meeting filed under §516.170(e). The OTS may also hold a formal meeting on its own initiative, if it determines that written submissions and informal meetings are insufficient to adequately present issues or facts to the OTS, or that a formal meeting would otherwise benefit the decisionmaking process. The OTS may limit the issues considered at the formal meeting to issues that the OTS deems relevant or material.

(b) *How will the OTS announce the formal meeting?* The OTS will issue a Notice of Formal Meeting that will state the subject and date of the filing, the time and place of the formal meeting and the issues to be addressed. The OTS will send the Notice to the applicant and any person requesting a formal meeting under §516.170(e). The OTS may also invite other interested persons to participate in the formal meeting by sending the Notice to such persons.

(c) *Who may participate in the formal meeting?* A person receiving a Notice must notify the OTS of its intent to participate within ten days after the OTS issues the Notice. At least five days before the formal meeting, all participants in the formal meeting must provide the names of their witnesses and copies of proposed exhibits to the OTS, the applicant, and any other person designated by the OTS.

(d) *Will the formal meeting be transcribed?* The OTS will arrange for a transcript. Each participant must bear the cost of any copies of the transcript it requests for its use.

(e) *What procedures govern the conduct of the formal meeting?* (1) The OTS will appoint a presiding officer to conduct the formal meeting. The presiding officer is responsible for all procedural questions not governed by this section. Subject to the rulings of the presiding